

DMH Letters and Information Notices
Related to
Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS)

DMH Information Letters

DMH LETTER NO.: 99-03 (July 23, 1999) – Provides the initial, in-depth policy information and guidance to MHPs initiating TBS. It was sent subsequent to DMH Information Notice No.: 99-09 that notified MHPs that TBS could now be reimbursed as a service under the EPSDT benefit.

DMH LETTER NO.: 99-04 (September 9, 1999) – Provides clarification on EPSDT/TBS eligibility for Medi-Cal eligible beneficiaries under the age of 21 who are residents of IMDs.

DMH LETTER NO.: 01-01 (May 4, 2001) – Provides clarification regarding one-to-one mental health services under the rehabilitation option that are not TBS.

DMH LETTER NO.: 01-02 (May 4, 2001) – Provides clarification to MHPs in assuring that covered mental health services are provided under the direction of specified professionals.

DMH LETTER NO.: 01-03 (August 8, 2001) – Establishes the requirements for TBS certification prior to certain types of placements.

DMH LETTER NO.: 01-04 (August 8, 2001) – Provides direction to MHPs for obtaining coverage of additional non-listed EPSDT supplemental specialty mental health services. Note: This letter was the result of PAI thinking that there could be more unidentified service needs other than TBS and wanted a mechanism for other services to be approved by DMH. TBS is still the only EPSDT supplemental specialty mental health service.

DMH LETTER NO.: 01-07 (November 16, 2001) – Directs the MHPs in their requirement to provide EPSDT/TBS notices to full-scope Medi-Cal eligible children/youth under the age of 21 (or legal representative). This letter has many attachments including EPSDT/TBS notices in both English and Spanish. DHS developed the EPSDT notice and DMH developed the TBS notice. In addition, DMH has reproduced the TBS notice in the state's threshold languages.

DMH LETTER NO.: 03-03 (September 11, 2003) – Provides clarification of Medi-Cal day rehabilitation and day treatment intensive program requirements.

DMH LETTER NO.: 04-02 (February 3, 2004) – Provides guidance to MHPs on the requirement to submit information to DMH on fourth authorizations for TBS.

DMH LETTER NO.: 04-03 (February 19, 2004) – Outlines changes in the requirements for MHP payment authorizations for TBS.

DMH LETTER NO.: 04-04 (February 19, 2004) – Directs MHPs in their responsibility to provide EPSDT/TBS notices to any full-scope Medi-Cal beneficiary who is under age 21 and admitted with an emergency psychiatric condition to an MHP contracted hospital.

DMH LETTER NO.: 04-11 (October 21, 2004) – Provides clarification on class membership requirements as related to the provision of TBS.

DMH LETTER NO.: 04-12 (October 21, 2004) – Provides clarification on continuing TBS after the child/youth has met their behavioral goals.

DMH Information Notices

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 99-09 (June 2, 1999) – Provides the initial in-depth information on the United States District Court's ruling that TBS is acknowledged as a Medi-Cal EPSDT supplemental specialty mental health service. Note: This information notice has important historical attachments, including the order for the preliminary injunction (February 1999), additional orders (May 1999) and Carol Hood's September 30, 1998 letter announcing the stakeholder meeting on October 7, 1998.

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 00-03 (June 23, 2000) – Provides MHPs with additional information, clarification and direction in TBS implementation including TBS information and MHP toll-free numbers, service function code billing for TBS collateral and plan development, consideration of TBS prior to out-of-home placement and the availability of technical assistance and training CWTAC/CIMH.

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 02-06 (October 1, 2002) – Provides information on DMH's intent to change the criteria for Medi-Cal Reimbursement for day rehabilitation and day treatment intensive.

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 02-08 (November 8, 2002) – Provides in-depth policy direction related to TBS authorizations, TBS documentation, TBS assessments, TBS client plans, TBS progress notes, minimum provider qualifications, coordination of services, and the distinction between TBS and other one-to-one services. Note: The authorization process outlined in this notice has been changed via language in the DMH/MHP fiscal year 2004/05 contract agreement.

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 02-11 (December 30, 2002) – Announced that the requirements of DMH Information Notice No.: 02-06 and No.: 02-08 would not be implemented until an appropriate regulation was in place.

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 03-01 (April 2, 2003) – Discusses the intent of DMH to establish a separate maximum rate methodology for TBS. Note: This rate methodology was never implemented. TBS still uses the rate established for mental health outpatient services.

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 04-05 (August 30, 2004) – Provides MHPs with information on the availability of non-Medi-Cal one-time funding for one-to-one special services for beneficiaries between the ages of 21 and 25.

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 05-08 (July 15, 2005) – Provides clarification on the MHP requirement to assure the adequate and appropriate provision of EPSDT/TBS to children/youth placed out-of-county. Note: This information notice also includes the new contract language added to the DMH/MHP fiscal year 2005/06 contract agreement related to MHP reporting requirements for out-of-county placement procedures.

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 05-09 (August 4, 2005) – Provides MHPs with information and direction regarding the provision of EPSDT/TBS to transition age youth.

DMH INFORMATION NOTICES – COMPLIANCE – 01-02; 02-01; 02-09; 03-16; 04-08; and 05-05.

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 01-02 (May 16, 2001)

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 02-01 (March 4, 2002)

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 02-09 (December 2, 2002)

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 03-16 (December 31, 2003)

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 04-08 (December 10, 2004)

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 05-05 (June 6, 2005)